Listing 12 is an example of a Python macro that sets cell A1 of the first sheet in a Calc spreadsheet to the text “Hello World from Python”.

Listing 12. Sample Python macro

```
import uno

def HelloWorld():
    doc = XSCRIPTCONTEXT.getDocument()
    cell = doc.Sheets[0]['A1']
    cell.setString('Hello World from Python')
    return
```

Working with VBA macros

For the Excel/VBA programmer, LibreOffice Basic is a programming language very similar to VBA. The primary reason that VBA does not work in Calc, even though Calc is able to read the Excel workbook, is that Calc uses a different mechanism to access the workbook (called spreadsheet in Calc) components, such as cells on the worksheet (called sheet in Calc). Specifically the objects, attributes and methods use different names and the corresponding behavior is sometimes slightly different.

To convert VBA code you must first load the VBA code in LibreOffice.

Loading VBA code

On the VBA Properties page (**Tools > Options > Load/Save > VBA Properties**), you can choose whether to keep any macros in Microsoft Office documents that are opened in LibreOffice.

If you choose **Load Basic code**, you can edit the macros in LibreOffice. The changed code is saved in an ODF document but is not retained if you save into a Microsoft Office format.

If you choose **Save original Basic code**, the macros will not work in LibreOffice but are retained unchanged if you save the file into Microsoft Office format.

If you are importing a Microsoft Word or Excel file containing VBA code, you can select the option **Executable code**. Whereas normally the code is preserved but rendered inactive (if you inspect it with the Basic IDE you will notice that it is all commented), with this option the code is ready to be executed.